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*Counsel for Federal Defendant*

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MONTANA  
GREAT FALLS DIVISION**

WESTERN ORGANIZATION OF )  
RESOURCE COUNCILS, *et al.*, )

Plaintiffs, )

v. )

U.S. BUREAU OF LAND )  
MANAGEMENT, )

Defendant, and )

STATE OF WYOMING, )

Intervenor Defendant. )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

Case No. 4:20-cv-00076-BMM-JTJ

**DEFENDANT'S UNOPPOSED  
MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF  
TIME TO RESPOND TO THE  
FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT**

Defendant Bureau of Land Management moves, unopposed, for a two-week extension of the deadline to answer or, in the alternative, move under Rule 12(b) in response to Plaintiff's First Amended Complaint (doc. no. 21). "When an act may or must be done within a specified time, the court may, for good cause, extend the time, with or without motion . . . if a request is made, before the original time or its extension expires." Fed. R. Civ. P. 6(b)(1)(a). Good cause exists here.

Plaintiffs amended their complaint as a matter of course on December 14, 2020. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 15(a)(1)(B). Defendant's and Intervenor Defendant's responses to the amended complaint are therefore due on December 28, 2020. *Id.* Rule 15(a)(3). A two-week extension of that deadline would accommodate holiday schedules during the week of December 21-25, as well as serve judicial economy and conserve the parties' resources.

Specifically, Plaintiffs' First Amended Complaint includes a new claim challenging the 2019 Miles City and Buffalo RMPAs under the Federal Vacancies Reform Act (FVRA). This Court recently set aside the 2019 Miles City RMPA under the FVRA in *Bullock v. U.S. Bureau of Land Mgmt.*, No. 4:20-cv-62-BMM, 2020 WL 6204334, at \*2 (D. Mont. Oct. 16, 2020). The deadline for any notice of appeal the final judgment issued in that case is December 28, 2020. An extension of the deadline to respond to Plaintiffs' new FVRA claim in this case will allow the parties to account for any such decision in *Bullock*.

Counsel for Defendant has conferred with counsel for Plaintiffs and Intervenor Defendant. No party opposes this motion. A proposed order is attached.

DATED: December 16, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

PAUL E. SALAMANCA,  
Deputy Assistant Attorney General  
Environment & Natural Resources Division

/s/ Arwyn Carroll  
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*Counsel for Federal Defendant*

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that on December 16, 2020, a copy of the foregoing was served on all counsel of record via the Court's CM/ECF system.

/s/ Arwyn Carroll

ARWYN CARROLL

U.S. Department of Justice